which appeared in the Financial Express of 24th November, 1985; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the Apparel Export Promotion Council, they got a very short notice for organising the garments display for the visiting Russian delegation. As such they invited only those exporters who had visited USSR in October, 1985. The Government has advised the Council to broad base the supplies to the external markets by involving more exporters in such activities.

UNCTAD meeting on Generalised Scheme of Preferences

2251. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India participated in the UNCTAD Meeting on the Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP) held earlier this month in Colombo; and

(b) if so, the views expressed by the experts from the UNCTAD and the Commission of the European Economic Community at this meeting parl ticularly towards their appoach to the developing countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

News-item captioned "Soviet rejection hits textile exports"

2252. SHRI DEBA PRASAD RAY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Sovit rejection hits textile exports" which appeared in the Economic Times of the 5th September, 1985;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the outcome of the discussions held with the representatives of the Cotton Textile Export Promotion Council and representatives of National Textile Corporation Limited; and

(d) what is the quantum and value of fabrics exported to the U.S.S.R. during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The rejection of fabrics offered for exports to USSR was high during 1985 in view of the rigorous inspection by the Russian buyers. A delegation visited Moscow to sort out these and other related problems. The exporters have been impressed on the need to improve the quality. As against a contracted quantity of 207 million metres for shipment during 1985, the shipments made as on 15th November, 1985 was 143 million metres.

(Figures in Million)

USSR	Quantity (Sq. Metres)	Value (Rs.)
1982 . . .	133·13	960·95
1983 . . .	154·31	1074·28
1984 . . .	191·10	1384·95

SOURCE : Cotton Textile Export Promotion Council.

World Bank aid for oil exploration etc.

2253. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to seek aid from World Bank for oil exploration and the gas programme in the Seventh Plan Period; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?